



AP
Rfw

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Applicants: Hyun-Jeong KIM

Group Art Unit: 2686

Serial No.: 09/734,852

Examiner: LY, Nghi H.

Filed: December 11, 2000

Docket: 678-578 (P9616)

For: **METHOD OF NOTIFYING A CALLER OF MESSAGE CONFIRMATION IN A
WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDED APPEAL BRIEF¹

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Samsung Electronics Co, Ltd, the assignee of the subject application, having an office at 416, Maetan-dong, Yeongtong-gu, Suwon-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea.

RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

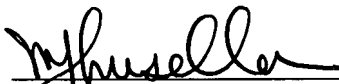
To the best of Appellant's knowledge and belief, there are no currently pending related appeals, interferences or judicial proceedings.

¹ This Amended Appeal Brief is being filed to comply with an Order of the Board dated March 30, 2007.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 (a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents on May 21, 2007.

Dated: May 21, 2007



Michael J. Musella

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Original Claims 1-15 were filed on December 11, 2000. Claim 1 was amended in an Amendment filed November 25, 2003. Claims 16 and 17 were added in an Amendment filed May 18, 2004. Claims 1-15 were cancelled, Claim 16 was amended, and Claims 18-27 were added in an Amendment filed January 5, 2005. Thus, Claims 16-27 are pending in the Appeal. Claims 16 and 21 are in independent form. For the purposes of this appeal, Claims 16-20 stand or fall together, and Claims 21-27 stand or fall together.

STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

Thus, the Appendix to this Appeal Brief includes independent Claims 16 and 21, along with dependent Claims 17-20 and 22-27.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The invention as recited in Claim 16 relates to a method of communicating a confirmation message.

The method informs a called mobile station of receipt of a message from a calling mobile station. Specification at page 9, lines 2-10; FIGs. 3-5.²

The method determines, if the received message is a text message, if a called party of the called mobile station has confirmed the received message, which is stored in the called mobile station. Specification at page 9, lines 12-14; FIGs. 3-5.

The method transmits, from the called mobile station, a confirmation message to be delivered to the calling mobile station, wherein the confirmation message is generated by the called mobile station when the called mobile station has confirmed the received message. Specification

² Although a citation for each feature of the claims is provided herein, Appellants do not concede the fact that support may be found elsewhere in the written description.

at page 9, lines 16-20; FIGs. 3-5.

The method includes that the confirmation message includes a telephone number of the calling mobile station. Specification at page 9, lines 22-25; FIGs. 3-5.

The invention as recited in Claim 21 also relates to a method of communicating a confirmation message.

The method determines, when a voice call is not normally established between a called mobile station and a calling mobile station, if a called party of the called mobile station has confirmed a message created and transmitted by the calling mobile station. Specification at page 9, lines 12-20; FIGs. 3-5.

The method generates, by the called mobile station, a confirmation message indicating the confirmation by the called party. Specification at page 9, lines 16-20; FIGs. 3-5.

The method transmits, from the called mobile station, the confirmation message to the calling mobile station. Specification at page 10, lines 1-2; FIGs. 3-5.

GROUND FOR REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Whether Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,216,106 to John ("John") in view of U.S. Patent 5,280,521 to Itoh ("Itoh") and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,477,243 to Choksi et al. ("Choksi").

Whether Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,216,106 to John ("John") in view of U.S. Patent 5,280,521 to Itoh ("Itoh").

ARGUMENT

1. Independent Claim 16 is patentable over John in view of Itoh and Choksi

Independent Claim 16 was said to be unpatentable over John, in view of Itoh, and further in view of Choksi.

John discloses a method and arrangement in a communications network. The invention disclosed by John relates to a service in a communication network comprising a voice messaging

system containing a mailbox assigned to a voice mail subscriber. According to the invention, the communication network transfers a voice message from the calling party to the voice messaging system where the message is stored in the mailbox. At some later point in time, the communication network transfers a request for the status of the voice message from the calling party to the voice messaging system. The voice messaging system returns information reflecting the status of the voice message to the calling party. In response to activities performed by the voice mail subscriber on the voice message, the message status may be changed in between storage of the voice message and receipt of the status request in the voice messaging system. John teaches that the voice messaging system VMS1 in FIG. 1 plays a second voice message (see Column 4, lines 41-47). Further, the VMS1 is not included the mobile station, and therefore, fails to teach generating and transmitting, by the called mobile station, a confirmation message indicating the confirmation by the called party to the calling mobile station. John teaches generating information indicating a status of a voice message in a voice message system, upon receiving a caller's request, not at the same time a message is confirmed by the called party.

Itoh discloses a portable telephone system. According to Itoh, a portable telephone system is disclosed in which a plurality of i -th class exchanges, which accommodate key service units of a plurality of portable telephone sets present in each service area, and at least one $(i+1)$ th class exchange which accommodates the plurality of i -th class exchanges through junction lines, are stratified to form an exchange system so that $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$, and so that the $(i+1)$ th class exchange covers all service areas. The exchange system has a function whereby information which specifies the home area of each portable telephone set and the portable telephone set in distinction from each other is registered in the i -th class exchange and the $(i+1)$ th class exchange, which administer the home area.

Choksi discloses a method and apparatus for automated facsimile message confirmation. According to Choksi, integration of telecommunication message services and other communication services is achieved by notifying a user of a communication system of successful receipt of a message (e.g., a facsimile message) by sending a confirmation message to the user, e.g., using e-mail, facsimile, voice and/or data communications. The user may be identified by a unique identifier, e.g., a telephone number. The confirmation message may comprise a facsimile message, an attachment which includes the received message or a computer network address of a location

where information regarding the received message and/or the message itself may be accessed. For the latter case, the computer network address is preferably a universal resource locator associated with a web page at which the information and/or received message may be accessed. The information may allow the user to view the message (e.g., as marked up by the intended recipient thereof), and/or it may indicate whether the intended recipient has read, reviewed, down-loaded to a hard copy or other device or otherwise accessed the message.

Claim 16 recites, among other elements, a method of communicating a confirmation message. If the received message is a text message, the method determines if a called party of the called mobile station has confirmed the received message. The method transmits, from the called mobile station, a confirmation message to be delivered to the calling mobile station, wherein the confirmation message is generated by the called mobile station when the called mobile station has confirmed the received message.

Claim 16 recites the step of generating and transmitting, **by the called mobile station**, a confirmation message indicating the **confirmation by the called party**. The confirmation message is transmitted **to the calling mobile station**. However, it is respectfully submitted that John in view of Itoh and Choksi does not teach these features of the present invention.

More specifically, Itoh, discloses that if a called terminal receives a message from a calling terminal, the called terminal transmits an answering signal without regard to if a called party confirms a message or not to enable the calling terminal to check if the called terminal correctly received the message. That is, the calling terminal cannot check if the **called party** has confirmed the message, but can only check that the message is received in the called terminal. As Choksi deals with a receipt notification containing a telephone number, and not if a calling terminal can check if the **called party** has confirmed the message, Choksi does not cure this defect.

Further, although John teaches notifying a calling party of a message confirmation of a called party, it is only by a confirmation message generated in a server, after a request is made by the calling party.

Therefore, assuming only for argument sake that these references are combinable with each other, when a called terminal confirms a message, a confirmation message is generated and stored in a server, not directly transmitted to a calling terminal. Accordingly, based on the combination of these references, the calling terminal must then transmit a request for message confirmation in

order to receive the message confirmation of the called terminal from the server.

However, as recited in independent Claim 16, when a called party confirms a message, a confirmation message is directly transmitted to the calling party. Therefore, it is not necessary to store the confirmation message in a separate server, as is necessary in the combination of John in view of Itoh. As Choksi deals with a receipt notification containing a telephone number, and not when a called party confirms a message, a confirmation message is directly transmitted to the calling party, Choksi does not cure the defects created by John and Itoh.

The Examiner has failed to show that all of the recitations of Claim 16 are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection.

Independent Claim 16 is not rendered unpatentable by John in view of Itoh and Choksi, thus Claims 16-20 are allowable.

2. Independent Claim 21 is patentable over John in view of Itoh

Independent Claim 21 was said to be unpatentable over John in view of Itoh.

John discloses a method and arrangement in a communications network. The invention disclosed by John relates to a service in a communication network comprising a voice messaging system containing a mailbox assigned to a voice mail subscriber. According to the invention, the communication network transfers a voice message from the calling party to the voice messaging system where the message is stored in the mailbox. At some later point in time, the communication network transfers a request for the status of the voice message from the calling party to the voice messaging system. The voice messaging system returns information reflecting the status of the voice message to the calling party. In response to activities performed by the voice mail subscriber on the voice message, the message status may be changed in between storage of the voice message and receipt of the status request in the voice messaging system. John teaches that the voice messaging system VMS1 in FIG. 1 plays a second voice message (see Column 4, lines 41-47). Further, the VMS1 is not included the mobile station, and therefore, fails to teach generating and transmitting, by the called mobile station, a confirmation message indicating the confirmation by the called party to the calling mobile station. John teaches generating information indicating a status of a voice message in a voice message system, upon receiving a caller's request, not at the

same time a message is confirmed by the called party.

Itoh discloses a portable telephone system. According to Itoh, a portable telephone system is disclosed in which a plurality of i -th class exchanges, which accommodate key service units of a plurality of portable telephone sets present in each service area, and at least one $(i+1)$ th class exchange which accommodates the plurality of i -th class exchanges through junction lines, are stratified to form an exchange system so that $i=1, 2, 3, \dots$, and so that the $(i+1)$ th class exchange covers all service areas. The exchange system has a function whereby information which specifies the home area of each portable telephone set and the portable telephone set in distinction from each other is registered in the i -th class exchange and the $(i+1)$ th class exchange, which administer the home area.

Claim 21 recites, among other elements, a method of communicating a confirmation message. When a voice call is not normally established between a called mobile station and a calling mobile station, the method determines if a called party of the called mobile station has confirmed a message created and transmitted by the calling mobile station. The method generates, by the called mobile station, a confirmation message indicating the confirmation by the called party. The method transmits, from the called mobile station, the confirmation message to the calling mobile station.

Claim 21 recites the step of generating and transmitting, **by the called mobile station**, a confirmation message indicating the **confirmation by the called party**. The confirmation message is transmitted **to the calling mobile station**. However, it is respectfully submitted that John in view of Itoh does not teach these features of the present invention.

More specifically, Itoh, discloses that if a called terminal receives a message from a calling terminal, the called terminal transmits an answering signal without regard to if a called party confirms a message or not to enable the calling terminal to check if the called terminal correctly received the message. That is, the calling terminal cannot check if the **called party** has confirmed the message, but can only check that the message is received in the called terminal.

Further, although John teaches notifying a calling party of a message confirmation of a called party, it is only by a confirmation message generated in a server, after a request is made by the calling party.

Therefore, assuming only for argument sake that these references are combinable with each

other, when a called terminal confirms a message, a confirmation message is generated and stored in a server, not directly transmitted to a calling terminal. Accordingly, based on the combination of these references, the calling terminal must then transmit a request for message confirmation in order to receive the message confirmation of the called terminal from the server.

However, as recited in independent Claim 21, when a called party confirms a message, a confirmation message is directly transmitted to the calling party. Therefore, it is not necessary to store the confirmation message in a separate server, as is necessary in the combination of John in view of Itoh.

The Examiner has failed to show that all of the recitations of Claim 21 are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection.

Independent Claim 21 is not rendered unpatentable by John in view of Itoh, thus Claims 21-27 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

Based on at least the foregoing, as the Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection, the rejection of Claims 16 and 21 must be reversed.

It is well settled that in order for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to be appropriate, the claimed invention must be shown to be obvious in view of the prior art as a whole. A claim may be found to be obvious if it is first shown that all of the recitations of a claim are taught in the prior art or are suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 985, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580, 583 (C.C.P.A. 1974), cited in M.P.E.P. §2143.03.

The Examiner has failed to show that all of the recitations of Claim 16 are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection.


The Examiner has failed to show that all of the recitations of Claim 21 are taught in or suggested by the prior art. The Examiner has failed to make out a prima facie case for an obviousness rejection.

Independent Claim 16 is not rendered unpatentable by John in view of Itoh and Choksi,

thus Claims 16-20 are allowable.

Independent Claim 21 is not rendered unpatentable by John in view of Itoh, thus Claims 21-27 are allowable.

Dated: May 21, 2007

By: 
Paul J. Farrell
Reg. No.: 33,494
Attorney for Applicant

THE FARRELL LAW FIRM
333 Earle Ovington Blvd., Suite 701
Uniondale, New York 11553
(516) 228-3565 (tel)
(516) 228-8475 (fax)

CLAIMS APPENDIX

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method of communicating a confirmation message, comprising the steps of:

informing a called mobile station of receipt of a message from a calling mobile station;
determining, if the received message is a text message, if a called party of the called mobile station has confirmed the received message, which is stored in the called mobile station; and
transmitting, from the called mobile station, a confirmation message to be delivered to the calling mobile station, wherein the confirmation message is generated by the called mobile station when the called mobile station has confirmed the received message and the confirmation message includes a telephone number of the calling mobile station.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of determining, if the received message is a voice message, whether the called mobile station is connected to a voice mail center in order to confirm the received voice message.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the confirmation message is a data burst message.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the confirmation message is a short message.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, further comprising the steps of:
sounding an alarm; and
displaying, in the calling mobile station, information indicating receipt of the confirmation message, upon receipt of the confirmation message.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of communicating a confirmation message,

comprising the steps of:

determining, when a voice call is not normally established between a called mobile station and a calling mobile station, if a called party of the called mobile station has confirmed a message created and transmitted by the calling mobile station;

generating, by the called mobile station, a confirmation message indicating the confirmation by the called party; and

transmitting, from the called mobile station, the confirmation message to the calling mobile station.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein the message transmitted by the calling mobile station is a voice message.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein the message transmitted by the calling mobile station is a text message.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein the confirmation message is a data burst message.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein the confirmation message is a short message.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, further comprising the steps of:
sounding an alarm, and displaying, in the calling mobile station, information indicating receipt of the confirmation message, upon receipt of the confirmation message.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21, wherein the confirmation message includes a telephone number of the calling mobile station.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

There is no evidence submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.130, 1.131, 1.132 or entered by the Examiner and relied upon by Appellant.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

Decisions rendered by a court or the Board in any proceeding identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of 37 C.F.R. 41.37:

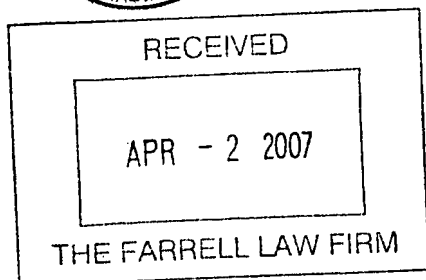
The Board issued an Order Returning Undocketed Appeal to Examiner, dated March 30, 2007, a copy of which is attached hereto.

678-578



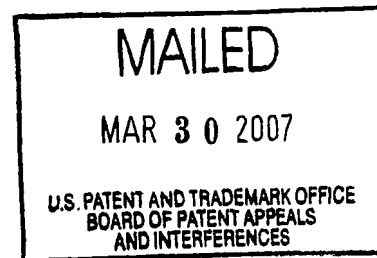
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES



Ex parte HYUN-JEONG KIM

Application 09/734,852



ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received electronically at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on January 8, 2007. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below:

March 29, 2006, appellant filed an Appeal Brief. A review of the file reveals that the "Summary of Claimed Subject Matter" does not map the independent claim(s) or dependent claim(s) argued separately to the specification, as set forth in 37 CFR § 41.37(c)(1)(v) which states:

(v) *Summary of claimed subject matter.* A concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, which shall refer to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any,

by reference characters. For each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately under the provisions of paragraph (c)(1)(vii) of this section, every means plus function and step plus function as permitted by 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, must be identified and the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function must be set forth with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters.

Proper correction of the Appeal Brief is required.


In addition, on June 15, 2006, an Examiner's Answer was entered into the record. In the Evidence Relied Upon section, page no. 2, paragraph 8, the examiner has stated that "No evidence is relied upon by the examiner in the rejection of the claims under appeal." A review of the file reveals that references to John 6,216,106, Itoh 5,280,521, Choksi 6,477,243, and DeGiorgio 3,866,206 were applied to the statement of rejections in the Grounds of Rejection, paragraph (9) of the examiner's answer.

Before further review, the examiner must submit a corrected examiner's answer that will include in the Evidence Relied Upon section, the list of references mentioned in the statement of rejections. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, (MPEP) § 1207.02. Appropriate correction is required.

Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the application is returned
to the Examiner to:

- 1) hold the Appeal Brief filed on March 29, 2006,
defective;
- 2) notify appellant to file a supplemental Appeal Brief
compliance with 37 CFR § 41.37;
- 3) vacate the Examiner's Answer mailed June 15, 2006;
- 4) consider Appellant's supplemental Brief;
- 5) issue a revised Examiner's Answer having the missing
references listed under the Evidence Relied Upon section,
paragraph, and;
- 6) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By: 
PATRICK J. NOLAN
Deputy Chief Appeal Administrator
(571) 272-9797

PJN:kis

CC: DILWORTH & BARRESE, L.L.P.
333 EARLE OVINGTON BOULEVARD
SUITE 702
UNIONDALE, NY 11553



PTO/SB/62 (01-06)
Approved for use through 12/31/2008 OMB 0051-0033
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY WITH NEW POWER OF ATTORNEY AND CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS	Application Number	09/734,852
	Filing Date	
	First Named Inventor	
	Att Unit	
	Examiner Name	
	Attorney Docket Number	678-578

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the above-identified application.

☐ A Power of Attorney is submitted herewith.

OR

☒ I hereby appoint the practitioners associated with the Customer Number

66547

☒ Please change the correspondence address for the above-identified application to:

☒ The address associated with
Customer Number:

66547

OR

☐ Firm or
Individual Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Country

Telephone

Email

I am the:

☐ Applicant/Inventor

☒ Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)

SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Signature

Name

Jong Yang Yoo, President of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.

Date

16 Nov. 2006

Telephone

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☐ Total of _____ forms are submitted

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.36. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-5199 and select option 2



PTO/SB/96 (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)**Atty. Docket No. 678-578**Applicant/Patent Owner: **KIM, Hyun-Jeong**Application No./Patent No.: **09/734,852** Filed/Issue Date: **December 11, 2000**

Entitled:

Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., a **corporation**

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest
(The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %)

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel **011643**, Frame **0600**, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

B ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

1. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
2. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
3. From: _____ To: _____
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

☒ As required by 37 CFR 3.73(b)(1)(i), the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was, or concurrently is being, submitted for recordation pursuant to 37 CFR 3.11.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.


Signature
Paul J. Farrell, Registration No. 33,494

May 21, 2007

Date
(516) 228-3565

Printed or Typed Name
Attorney for Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.

Telephone Number

Title

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 3.73(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.